

Apparatus for the repeated automatic execution of a thermal cycle in several successive stages, especially for the enzymatic amplification of nucleic acid sequences

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Abstract

Apparatus for the repeated automatic execution of a thermal cycle in several successive stages of treatment of a plurality of biological samples. The apparatus comprises: - a first heat-insulated unit 1, - a plurality of independent thermostatic tanks 5, 6, 7 arranged inside this heat-insulated unit 1, - a plurality of racks 11 for carrying a plurality of tubes containing the samples, each rack being intended to be immersed successively in the thermostatic tanks, - a robot 4 for successively transferring the racks 11, - a device for the electronic regulation of the temperature of each tank 5, 6, 7, - a computer for controlling the robot and the electronic regulation device. Application to the repeated cyclic thermal treatment of biological samples, and especially

to the in vitro enzymatic amplification of nucleic acid sequences. 

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